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and for their legal stability. Taken legally, the work of the comparatively few lawyers engaged in this class of work is a fine art, and the compensation for services is oftentimes very great. So for the young lawyer who is casting about for a field in which to specialize, this subject is of particular interest. It is a new and decidedly attractive field.

It is gratifying to have a man of Mr. Dill's experience and reputation provide for us so much valuable information as is contained in the fourth edition of his book. The exhaustion of the previous edition and the multiplication of corporation precedents account for this new edition. The important interim legislation treated, is that relating to the conversion of preferred stocks into bonds; the broadening of the power to issue bonds; and to the removal of restrictions upon the corporate right to put the bonds on the market at the market price. Among the late decisions receiving initial treatment are, first, the much discussed question of the relative rights of majority and minority stockholders; secondly, the question of how to legally provide for the modification of the rights of stockholders without disturbing the fixedness of the corporate securities. Illustrating this latter question is a discussion of the recent case of *Berger v. United States Steel Corporation*, 53 Atl. 68.

The additions devoted to corporate precedents is of more general interest, because they are, as the author says, a public demonstration of the corporate problems arising under the laws of the States in general.

Of extraordinary interest and value are the extracts from the charters, by-laws, and corporation records prepared for the great corporations by the finest legal talent, representing the best corporate work in the country.

G. R. J.

Elements of the Law of Real Property. By Grant Newell, Professor of the Law of Real Property in Chicago-Kent College of Law. T. H. Flood & Co., Chicago. 1902. 1 vol., pp. 438.

There is probably no branch of law which is so generally approached by students with feelings of dread as that of real property. To the student who has become accustomed to think of this subject as three large volumes of intricate puzzles, the simplicity of this book will appeal. Being designed especially for students, the author, a teacher of law, has thrown into this work all his experience in the classroom, and while simplicity has been the aim, he has not failed to give a thorough consideration of all the foundation principles of his subject.

The sections on land including the principles governing fixtures are adequate and complete. Trade fixtures being largely regulated by statute, a very valuable note has been inserted in which the leading cases in the various States on this subject are classified under such special headings as trees, growing crops, etc.

Estoppel receives its proper attention. Conceding there is no

universal rule as to the effect of estoppel by deed on title, the author adds that the doctrine upheld by Mr. Washburn, that the title of the person against whom the estoppel operates inures to the one in whose favor it is established and so passes the after acquired title to the grantee, does not seem to be in accord with the general doctrine of estoppel. The conflict of authority as to the requirement of an intention to deceive in estoppel *in pais* is mentioned, but no attempt at explanation is made, the author deeming this question to be one which should be discussed as a matter of equity jurisprudence.

The special feature of the book is found at the end. Here the author has accumulated leading and illustrative cases, which he has grouped in chapters numbered and headed to correspond with the chapters of the text. A study of these cases will impress the student with the application of principles by the courts and thus demonstrate to him their importance.

J. A. T.

A Brief for the Trial of Criminal Cases. By Austin Abbott. Assisted by William C. Beecher. Second edition by the publishers' staff. The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Company, Rochester, N. Y. 1902. pp., 814.

This book is intended as a working hand-book for the practitioner whose activity is largely in the criminal courts, and it is excellently adapted for that purpose. The arrangement may be called chronological, that is, the various topics are treated in the order in which they ordinarily arise in a criminal prosecution, from the right of the accused to counsel to his final discharge or sentence. The chapters on "Selection of Jurors," "Rules of Evidence," and "Instructing the Jury" are treated with exceptional fullness. Without cumbering the work with an accumulation of authorities on well-settled points of law, the mooted questions are illustrated by a wealth of recent citations pro and con, with an indication of what is, in the author's view, the better or the prevailing opinion. Altogether, this volume, like the others of Mr. Abbott's "Trial Brief Series," is, to the busy lawyer with a criminal practice, indispensable.

G. N. W.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

COMMERCIAL TRUSTS. By John R. Dos Passos. G. P. Putnam's Sons. New York. 1902. *Review will follow.*

REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION. Edited by Eugene C. Massie, of the Richmond Bar. Everett Wadday Co., Richmond. 1902. Cloth, pp. 341.

DIGEST OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGES, INCLUDING RELATED TOPICS IN THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. Edited by Robert H. Whitten, sociology librarian of the New York State Library. Pamphlet. Albany. 1902. pp. 155.

THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW. A review of the Ames-Brewster controversy. By Charles L. McKeehan of the Philadelphia Bar. Reprinted from Am. Law Register, Vol. 41, N. S., nos. 8, 9, 10.